



## **Five Ways Trump's Budget Plans Will Break His Promise To Work For Americans**

According to White House Budget Director Mick Mulvaney, President Trump's first budget "is a true 'America-first' budget" that will include \$54 billion in "savings." Although Mulvaney provided few details, most of the cuts in "non-defense discretionary spending" are likely to come at the expense of the middle class and those struggling to join them. If applied evenly across all affected departments and agencies, the cuts would mean an 11.2 percent reduction in investments like health care, job creation, education, infrastructure, and medical research. In fact, since President Trump reportedly will protect certain favored agencies, the average cut for most other domestic programs could be 15 percent or greater. [CNBC, [2/27/17](#); Politico, [2/27/17](#); The White House Office of the Press Secretary, [2/27/17](#); CBPP, [2/27/17](#)]

### **Here are just five ways that the Trump budget could harm American families:**

- 1. SAFETY AND SECURITY: Cuts to programs that keep Americans safe at home and abroad.**
  - The White House said on Monday that they are considering **cuts of up to 37 percent to State Department programs like embassy security and programs that promote American interests abroad.** [AP, [2/28/17](#)]
  - The White House's plans will also reportedly **slash the Department of State's foreign operations by more than \$4 billion.** This would leave the 9 million Americans living abroad and the 73 million Americans who travel abroad every year—everyone from retirees to students—without critical services that keep them safe. [Department of State, [6/16](#); Senate Budget Committee calculations<sup>i</sup>]
  - Further cuts to the State Department would undermine **protection of foreign missions and officials, the department's ability to respond to emergencies in the diplomatic and consular service, and efforts to promote democracy at home and abroad.** [Politico, [2/27/17](#)]
- 2. LOST JOBS AND CRUMBLING INFRASTRUCTURE: Cuts infrastructure funding, which will cost American jobs and make it harder for American businesses to thrive.**
  - President Trump promised \$1 trillion in infrastructure investment, but today, over a month after taking office, **the President still hasn't put forward a comprehensive infrastructure plan** that will create good jobs and support economic growth for American businesses big and small. [CNN, [2/28/17](#)]
  - Instead, under an across-the-board cut to all non-defense programs, Trump's budget would slash **as much as \$327 million from the Community**

**Development Fund that funds infrastructure, public facilities, and economic development and other vital projects.** [HUD, Accessed [2/28/17](#); Senate Budget Committee calculations]

- The proposal could also **slash more than \$1.3 billion from Federal Aviation Administration funding**, which would jeopardize the jobs of the more than 47,000 FAA employees across the country. [Washington Post, [2/27/17](#); FAA, Accessed [2/28/17](#); Senate Budget Committee calculations]

**3. LOST JOB TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES: Cuts job training programs that help 20 million Americans every year.**

- President Obama handed President Trump a growing economy. As of January 2017, the unemployment rate was near a decade-long low of 4.6 percent and 80 straight months of job growth. [NYTimes, [2/12/16](#)]
- Despite promises that the budget plan would focus on “economic development and things such as that,” President Trump’s proposed cuts, if applied as an across-the-board reduction, could **cut job training programs at the Department of Education by as much as \$184 million and slash the Employment and Training Administration, which funds programs that help 20 million Americans per year, by \$356 million.** [Washington Post, [2/3/17](#); Roll Call, [2/27/17](#); WIOA, Accessed [2/28/17](#); Senate Budget Committee calculations]

**4. WEAKENED COMMITMENT TO CLEAN AIR AND WATER: Cutting programs that ensure clean air and safe drinking water will help polluters at the expense of working families.**

- A reported reduction of **25 percent** to environmental programs at the Environmental Protection Agency would result in **cuts of about \$2 billion this year, which would target bedrock programs like Clean Air Act grants to state air programs, school air and water quality health programs, assessment and revitalization of contaminated sites, and geographical cleanup programs.** [E&E News, [2/27/17](#)]
- President Trump’s proposal to slash the EPA’s budget also “dictates cutting the agency’s grants to states, including its air and water programs, by 30 percent, and eliminating 38 separate programs in their entirety.” [Washington Post, [3/1/17](#)]

**5. LOSS OF LIFESAVING CURES: Cuts to health research could set our nation back in our fights against cancer, Alzheimer’s, and diabetes, among other serious diseases, while cuts to vital nutrition programs could harm those already struggling.**

- President Trump’s proposal would likely decimate the ability of the U.S. to remain on the cutting edge of biomedical research.
- As much as **\$3.3 billion could be stripped from the National Institutes of Health** which could significantly affect a multitude of projects, including work to **develop a cure for cancer, which impacts 1.6 million Americans** and their families each year, or **fight Alzheimer’s disease**, which

more than 5 million Americans are living with today. [Science, [2/27/17](#); National Cancer Institute, Accessed [2/28/17](#); Alzheimer's Association, Accessed [2/28/17](#); Senate Budget Committee calculations]

- The budget cuts would further debilitate those who are already struggling. For example, the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Food Nutrition Service, which **helps nearly 8 million women, infants, and children each month, would be cut by more than \$700 million next year alone.** That means that the proposed cut would either remove more than 800,000 women and children from the program or the already meager average monthly benefit of \$42.74 per month would be cut by more than 10 percent [CNN, [2/27/17](#); USDA, Accessed [2/28/17](#); Senate Budget Committee calculations; USDA WIC Program, Accessed [3/1/17](#)]

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<sup>i</sup> The Senate Budget Committee's calculations in this brief assume that all NDD programs are cut in an even, across-the-board manner, despite the administration's announcements that the Department of State, for instance, would be cut more deeply and the Department of Veterans Affairs would actually see an increase in funding. For that reason, these estimates probably understate the severity of the proposed cuts. All estimations of budgets cuts are calculated based on the program's percentage share of the \$54 billion reduction below the FY2018 baseline.